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1. INVESTIGATION OF INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES AT ABU GHRAIB. AR 15-6: INVESTIGATION OF THE ABU GHRAIB PRISON AND 205TH MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BRIGADE; AR 15-6: INVESTIGATION OF THE ABU GHRAIB DETENTION FACILITY AND 205TH MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BRIGADE.

Anthony R. Jones and George R. Fay, United States Department of Defense. United States Army. August 25, 2004.

Major General Fay was appointed to investigate allegations that members of the 205th Military Intelligence Brigade (205 MI BDE) were involved in detainee abuse at the Abu Ghraib Detention Facility in Iraq in latter half of 2003. Specifically, Fay was to determine whether 205 MI BDE personnel requested, encouraged, condoned, or solicited Military Police (MP) personnel to abuse detainees and whether MI personnel comported with established interrogation procedures and applicable laws and regulations. Later, Lieutenant General Jones was appointed as an additional investigating officer. Their individual reports are combined in this document.

<http://www4.army.mil/ocpa/reports/ar15-6/AR15-6.pdf> [pdf format, 177 pages]

2. FINAL REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT PANEL TO REVIEW DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE [DOD] DETENTION OPERATIONS. [SCHLESINGER REPORT]

Independent Panel to Review DoD Detention Operations. August 24, 2004.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld appointed an independent panel to investigate the abuses at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq. The panel was chaired by Former Defense Secretary James R. Schlesinger; other panel members were former Defense Secretary Harold Brown, former Congresswoman Tillie K. Fowler and retired Air Force Gen. Charles A. Horne. "The events of October through December 2003 on the night shift of Tier 1 at Abu Ghraib prison were acts of brutality and purposeless sadism," the panel members state in this report. The report finds brigade commanders at Abu Ghraib directly responsible for abuses at the prison "because they did not adequately supervise what was going on at Abu Ghraib." The report does not lay all the blame for prisoner abuse on the commanders in the field. Panel members fault a lack of Pentagon leadership for indirectly allowing abuses to occur by not anticipating the extent of the post-war discontent and for failing to provide adequate resources for guarding prisoners.

<http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Aug2004/d20040824finalreport.pdf> [pdf format, 126 pages]

3. NATO TRANSFORMED.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). July 2004.

This glossy document provides a comprehensive introduction describing how NATO works and reviewing policy developments throughout its history. When the Alliance was founded in 1949, the Soviet Union was seen as the main threat to the freedom and independence of Western Europe. NATO's transformation during the past decade has been characterized by a series of initiatives that represent concrete, highly practical responses to the new security challenges and opportunities of the post-Cold War environment. These include the Partnership for Peace, special relations with Russia and Ukraine, a dialogue with Mediterranean countries, the Membership Action Plan to help aspiring countries meet NATO standards, and effective cooperation with the European Union, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the United Nations. .

<http://www.nato.int/docu/nato-trans/nato-trans-eng.pdf> [English-language, pdf format, 48 pages]

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4. SCIENCE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY.

Executive Office of the President (EOP). National Science and Technology Council (NSTC). July 20, 2004.

Science has always been a national priority. Although no one can accurately predict whether a specific program of research program will lead to beneficial outcomes, the U.S. public has consistently supported discovery science, realizing that it consistently leads to valuable results. The U.S. also engages in science that is directed to addressing specific national challenges and pursues methods to accelerate the translation of science into products and applications. Furthermore, federal research programs provide educational opportunities and inspiration for the young scientists and educators who will help shape the future. An important objective of the NSTC is the establishment of clear national goals for federal science and technology investments in areas ranging from information technologies and health research to improving transportation systems and strengthening fundamental research.

http://www.ostp.gov/nstc/21stcentury/Final_sm.pdf [pdf format, 48 pages]

5. CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPLICATIONS THROUGH 2020.

United States Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). National Intelligence Council (NIC). June 28, 2004.

*In November 2003 the National Intelligence Council initiated a project to help uncover the most important influences that will shape our world to the year 2020. With the NIC 2020 Project, the Center for International and Security Studies at Maryland School of Public Affairs, University of Maryland, College Park organized a conference on "Climate Change and Its Implications Through 2020." Key topics and questions focused on: * What We Know About Climate Change; * Policy Scenarios Related to Climate Change; * Geopolitical, Economic, and Social Implications of Policy Scenarios.*

http://www.odci.gov/nic/PDF_GIF_2020_Support/2004_06_28_papers/climate_change.pdf [pdf format, 4 pages]

6. FOREIGN POLICY ATTITUDES NOW DRIVEN BY 9/11 AND IRAQ. [Eroding Respect for America Seen as Major Problem.]

Council on Foreign Relations; Pew Research Center for the People and the Press. Web-posted August 18, 2004.

The Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, in association with the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), conducted a survey of foreign policy attitudes 2,009 adults in the United States. The survey finds a 59% majority faulting the Bush administration for being too quick to use force rather than trying hard enough to reach diplomatic solutions. But while the public has deep reservations about the war in Iraq, there is sustained support for the doctrine of preemption. A 60% majority believes that the use of military force can at least be sometimes justified against countries that may seriously threaten the U.S. but have not attacked.

<http://people-press.org/reports/pdf/222.pdf> [pdf format, 78 pages] or:
<http://www.cfr.org/pdf/CFRPEW.pdf> [pdf format, 79 pages]

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7. THE FUTURE OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED CROPS: LESSONS FROM THE GREEN REVOLUTION.

Felicia Wu and William Butz.

RAND. August 17, 2004.

The world is now on the cusp of a new agricultural revolution, the so-called Gene Revolution, in which genetically modified (GM) crops are tailored to address chronic agricultural problems in certain regions of the world. In this document the authors compare the Green Revolution of the 20th century with the GM crop movement to assess the agricultural, technological, sociological, and political differences between the two movements.

[Note: Contains copyrighted material.]

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2004/RAND_MG161.pdf [pdf format, 116 pages]

8. ELECTION REFORM BRIEFING: THE BUSINESS OF ELECTIONS.

electionline.org. August 11, 2004.

During the controversial 2000 presidential election, voting machines became a much-talked-about feature of U.S. elections. Most voters had paid little attention to either the machines that tallied their votes, whether in electronic format or with paper ballots, or to the companies that produced those machines. The once-overlooked election industry has become the focus of intense scrutiny in recent years with the passage of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) and the promise of nearly \$4 billion in funds from Washington to purchase new voting machines, software and databases. In the past two years, as concerns over the security and reliability of direct-recording electronic (DRE) voting machines have increased, so too has the public wariness over the political activity of companies that design, manufacture and maintain them. This report provides a nonpartisan and non-advocacy look at the political campaign contributions and lobbying activities of the largest producers of electronic voting machines, including Diebold, Inc., Election Systems & Software, Sequoia Voting Systems and Hart InterCivic.

<http://www.electionline.org/site/docs/pdf/ERIP%20Brief%208.pdf> [pdf format, 24 pages]

9. THE INTERNET AND DAILY LIFE.

Deborah Fallows.

Pew Internet and American Life Project. August 11, 2004.

Nearly two-thirds of the American population is now online. Internet use continues to spread from work to home, and now to Americans' busy lives. Increasing numbers access the Web via broadband connections. The storehouse of available and searchable content is ever-expanding, and Americans' collective appetite for it seems boundless. This report explores what the Internet means in the conduct and context of everyday life--from getting the news to buying movie tickets to paying bills to scheduling lunch. Behind the report is a great deal of research focused on the basics of what Americans do online. Research shows, for example, that applications of e-mail and search are the most popular activities and transactions like banking are the fastest growing. According to Fallows, U.S. users turn to the Internet most when it offers advantages in speed, convenience, time, and other measures of efficiency:

http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Internet_and_Daily_Life.pdf [pdf format, 33 pages]

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10. CRIMES AGAINST TOURISTS.

Ronald W. Glensor and Kenneth J. Peak.

United States Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). August 2004.

These guides have drawn on research findings and police practices in the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the Netherlands, and Scandinavia. Even though laws, customs and police practices vary from country to country, it is apparent that the police everywhere experience common problems. In a world that is becoming increasingly interconnected, it is important that police be aware of research and successful practices beyond the borders of their own countries. This guide addresses tourist crime, beginning by describing the problem and reviewing the factors that contribute to it. The guide then identifies a series of questions to help readers analyze their local problem and a number of measures that can be taken to address the problem. Although the guide addresses tourist crime in the United States, the information provided may also benefit those readers dealing with the problem abroad.

<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/mime/open.pdf?Item=1306> [pdf format, 54 pages]

11. THE FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

Luke J. Larsen.

United States Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. August 5, 2004.

This report describes the foreign-born population in the United States in 2003. The foreign-born are those who were not U.S. citizens at birth. Natives are those who were born in one of the following areas — the United States, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, or the Northern Mariana Islands — or were born abroad of at least one parent who was a U.S. citizen. In March 2003, the civilian non-institutionalized population in the United States included 33.5 million foreign born, representing 11.7 percent of the U.S. population. Among the foreign born, 53.3 percent were born in Latin America, 25.0 percent in Asia, 13.7 percent in Europe, and the remaining 8.0 percent in other regions of the world. The report also provides data on household size, income levels, and educational attainment of the foreign born.

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2004pubs/p20-551.pdf> [pdf format, 12 pages]

12. WOMEN AND HIV/AIDS: CONFRONTING THE CRISIS.

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS); United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). July 14, 2004.

This report notes that 48% of all adults living with HIV are women, up from 35% in 1985. Today, 37.8 million people are infected worldwide: 17 million of them are female. The situation is even more alarming in sub-Saharan Africa, where women make up 57% of those living with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. Young African women aged 15-24 are three times more likely to be infected than their male counterparts. Without AIDS strategies that specifically focus on women, there can be no global progress in fighting the disease.

Full Report: http://www.unfpa.org/hiv/women/docs/women_aids.pdf [English, pdf format, 76 pages]

Executive Summary: http://www.unfpa.org/hiv/women/docs/women_aids_execsummary.pdf [English, pdf format, 4 pages]

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13. LOOKING FOR TROUBLE: A POLICYMAKER'S GUIDE TO BIOSENSING.

Robert Armstrong, Patricia Coomber and Stephen Prior, with Ashley Dincher.

National Defense University (NDU), Center for Technology and National Security Policy. June 2004; Web-posted July 14, 2004.

Protecting the population against the effects of a bioterrorism attack is one of the most daunting tasks facing government officials. Some of the information required to make informed decisions is highly technical, and even the technical experts do not agree about many of the details or issues involved. This guide is written for the non-technical policymaker and is designed to assist him or her in reaching important decisions regarding how best to help provide early warning of a biological attack. Finally, the authors propose testing an innovative approach to monitoring for the presence of biological pathogens. They recommend that the 23,500-strong workforce of law enforcement officers, firefighters and mail carriers in Washington, D.C., be monitored daily by thermal imagers for increases in body temperature.

<http://www.ndu.edu/ctnsp/LookingforTrouble-wb-kd.pdf> [pdf format, 67 pages]

14. 2004 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION. TRANSCRIPTS OF SPEECHES.

Democratic National Convention Committee, Inc. Updated July 30, 2004.

[Note: Transcripts of speeches included in this site are as "prepared for delivery." In the cases a speaker changed the contents of the remarks during delivery of his/her speech, those changes are not reflected in the transcripts on this website.]

There are approximately 80 listings of individuals and groups, but quite a few of them link to an "empty" page - that is, to a page with just the name of the speaker or speakers, but no transcript is posted there. Among the most widely covered and analyzed speeches in the U.S. media are those of: Bill Clinton, John Edwards, John Kerry, Teresa Heinz Kerry, Barack Obama, Ron Reagan, and Al Sharpton.

[Note: Contains copyrighted material]

<http://www.dems2004.org/site/apps/nl/newsletter3.asp?c=lu12LaPYG&b=131063> [Various formats and pagings]

15. 2004 REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION. TRANSCRIPTS OF SPEECHES.

Republican National Convention Committee. Updated September 2, 2004.

[Note: The transcripts of the speeches included in this site are transcripts of the speeches as "prepared for delivery"; when an individual speaker changed the contents of the remarks during the delivery of his/her speech, those changes are not reflected in the transcripts on this website.]

There are approximately 55 links to transcripts; some audio files are linked from the main convention page:

<http://www.gopconvention.com>. Among the most widely covered and analyzed speeches in the U.S. media are those of: President George W. Bush; Vice President Dick Cheney; Michael Steele; Arnold Schwarzenegger; Zell Miller; and Rudy Giuliani.

[Note: Contains copyrighted material.]

<http://www.gopconvention.com/news/speeches.shtml> [Speeches in html format, various pagings]

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16. SERBIA'S CHANGING POLITICAL LANDSCAPE.

International Crisis Group (ICG). July 22, 2004.

This report examines the consequences and significance of the June presidential election which saw Tadic from the Democratic Party (DS) win over ultra-nationalist Tomislav Nikolic of the Serbian Radical Party (SRS). In the view of the authors, the presidential election clearly demonstrated a process of consolidation and rationalization within Serbia's political parties. Since the election, Tadic has indicated that he will support the government of Premier Vojislav Kostunica, thereby reducing the influence of the Socialist Party (SPS), which supports the government in parliament. However, the office of president holds little authority over day-to-day policy-making, and Tadic's election may not necessarily translate into real change for Serbian politics. The election leaves Serbia's minority government highly vulnerable to pressure from the nationalist right as well as the pro-European centre. Although the presidential election is now out of the way, the Serbian government remains reluctant to restart cooperation with The Hague despite ever-increasing international pressure. Likewise, reform legislation has stalled, and relations with minorities in the ethnically mixed Vojvodina province have worsened noticeably and the authors of this report fear that those relations could be subject to further deterioration.

http://www.icg.org/library/documents/europe/balkans/040722_serbia_changing_political_landscape.pdf [pdf format, 20 pages]

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